

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants would initially like to acknowledge, with appreciation, the helpful and constructive interview granted to the undersigned by Examiner Daniels on August 10, 2009. As discussed during the interview, Applicants request reconsideration of independent Claims 1, 22, and 34, and the claims depending therefrom, in view of the Amendments and Remarks set forth herein, which Applicants consider to be a summary of the matters discussed during the interview as required by 37 CFR § 1.133(b). As discussed during the interview, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 22 and 34 to clarify the claimed invention. Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the application and Claims 1-14, 16-29, and 31-41 based upon the Amendments and Remarks set forth herein.

Claims 1-8, 17, 22-25 and 32-34 Are Allowable over Koshu and Dobashi

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-8, 17, 22-25 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Japanese Publication Number JP 2003-345255 to Koshu (“Koshu”) in view of Japanese Publication Number JP 2002-318405 to Dobashi (“Dobashi”) and, in the alternative, as being unpatentable over Dobashi in view of “admitted and submitted prior art.”

As discussed during the interview, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 22, and 34 to recite “the sheet directly covers only the lens and any portions of the housing of the imaging device.” In contrast, the device of Dobashi must cover a “detection means 5” to determine if the lens barrier 4 has been placed on the lens 2. As discussed and agreed to during the interview, Dobashi does not disclose a sheet that directly covers only the lens and any portions of the housing of the imaging device.

Additionally, Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to recite that “the sheet comprises one of an opaque material or reflective film.” It is submitted that neither Koshu nor Dobashi discloses such claim feature, as Dobashi discloses a barrier that covers a “detection means 5” (which deactivates the camera such that opacity is not necessary), and Koshu discloses that film layer 2 is transparent.

In light of the above, it is submitted that Claims 1, 22 and 34, and the claims depending therefrom, patentably distinguish over Koshu and Dobashi. Reconsideration and withdrawal of

the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of Claims 1, 22 and 34, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, is respectfully requested.

With regard to the Section 103 rejection of dependent Claims 2-8, 17, 23-25 and 32-33, these claims are dependent from Claims 1, 22, or 34, respectively, and are allowable for the same reasons that each respective independent claim is allowable. Further, Claims 2-8, 17, 23-25 and 32-33, as amended, recite features not taught by the Dobashi or Koshu. In this regard, and in addition to the recitations in independent Claim 1 noted above, Claim 2 has been amended to recite “the sheet only extends to an area of the lens so as to not affect any phone functions of the mobile terminal.” Kosu discloses sealing containers only and Dobashi discloses a lens barrier for only a camera. Neither Kosu nor Dobashi disclose any phone functions, much less a security cover having a size that does not extend beyond the area of the lens so as to affect *phone functions* of the mobile terminal. As such, the cited art does not teach or disclose the elements of Claim 2.

Claim 3 recites the sheet having a “reflective surface.” Neither Kosu nor Dobashi disclose a reflective surface.

Claim 18 recites “the sheet is formed from an easily tearable material.” Neither Kosu nor Dobashi disclose using a sheet formed from an easily tearable material.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment responds to all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action based upon the prior art references cited therein and discussed in the interview. Regarding the second rejection in the Office Action, which relies upon “admitted and submitted prior art”, Applicants note that 37 CFR 1.104(b) requires an Office Action to be complete as to all matters and that 37 CFR 1.104(c)(2) requires that an Office Action designate the particular part of each reference relied on by the Examiner as nearly as practicable and clearly explain the pertinence of such reference and each rejected claim. Based upon the interview, Applicants do not believe any other prior art references are at issue. However, to the extent the reference to “admitted and submitted prior art” is intended to incorporate any prior art reference(s) other than Kosu or Dobashi, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner identify such reference(s) in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that Claims 1-8, 17, 22-25 and 32-34 include recitations that patentably distinguish the claimed invention over Koshu and Dobashi, either singly or in combination.

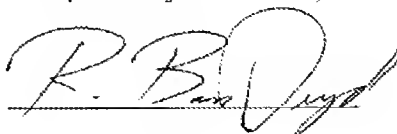
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CONCLUSION

In view of the Amendments to the application and the foregoing Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. Examiner Daniels is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 13-4365.

Respectfully submitted,



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